"beast, moreover, appears to be fierce, a somewhat rare attribute of Whales. It has been spoken of, indeed, as " a cunning, courageous, and vicious " animal. *Hhojchianectes* is essentially a coast Whale, and loves to lie in the surf in quite shallow water waiting for the tide to float it off. This Whale varies much in colour from black to mottled grey and black, and reaches a length of about 40 feet.

Fam. 2. Balaenidae.— The Eight Whales of the genus *Bolaena* are to be distinguished from *Neobalaena* and from the Rorquals by the following characters:—

The size is large, 50 to 60 feet. There is no dorsal fin. The head is more than or nearly one-fourth of the entire length of the animal The baleen is very long. The throat is not grooved. The orbital process of the frontal is not wider than the down- ward process of the maxilla. The cervical vertebrae are all fused. The scapula is rather high. The hind-limb has the rudiment of a tibia. The intestine has no caecum.

A vast number of different- genera have been founded on detached bones, bits of whalebone, and more or less complete skeletons of Bight Whales coming from different parts of the world. In Dr. G-ray's catalogues we find the following allowed, viz. *JScdcLena,) J^ibbalaena,, Sunteri'Ms, Caper ea, M^acleayius.* The number of " species" distributed among the genera is some thirteen or more, with whose names we shall not trouble the reader. As a matter of fact there are not more than two species which can with certainty be identified and distinguished, both of which are so close that they cannot possibly be placed but in the same genus, *JSalaena.* In no group of Whales— in no group of animals probably—has imagination run riot to so terrible an extent in the formation of genera and species as in these Bight Whalea This multiplication or rather division of genera has arisen from an old idea that Whales coming from different seas must be of different kinds, a notion now thoroughly exploded.

The term " Bight Whale ** simply means that the Whales of this genus are the right kind of Whale for the whaler to pursue. Their whalebone is longer and more valuable, while the oil is

not only more abundant but of a superior quality. The two species demand a separate account.

The Greenland Whale, *J&xlaena, mysticetus,* is one of the rare instances of a Whale which has an exceedingly limited range in